

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TOKYO 14818 131145Z

17-12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 SCI-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 EB-11

COME-00 INT-08 SCEM-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AEC-11 DRC-01

AF-10 /210 W

----- 110031

P R 130923Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8137

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 14818

DEPT PASS AS APPROPRIATE TO MINIMIZE POSTS

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, JA

SUBJ: JAPANESE PETROLEUM CONSUMPTION CONTROL PLANS

SUMMARY: GOJ NOW IN FINAL STAGES OF CONSIDERATION OF PETROLEUM

CONSUMPTION CONTROL PLANS, WHICH EXPECTED TO BE FORMALLY

ANNOUNCED NOV. 16. MITI FORESEES 20 PERCENT REDUCTION OF

NORMAL CRUDE OIL SUPPLIES BEGINNING IN EARLY DECEMBER, BUT

INITIALLY WILL SEEK IMPOSE ONLY 10 PCNT CUTBACK OF OIL SUPPLIES

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TOKYO 14818 131145Z

ON ECONOMY THROUGH ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE, PARTICULARLY TO

LARGE OIL CONSUMERS, AND NATIONAL ENERGY SAVING CAMPAIGN.  
SUBMISSION OF EMERGENCY LEGISLATION TO DIET IN EARLY  
DECEMBER WILL FOLLOW. END SUMMARY

1. SHOHEI KURIHARA, HEAD OF GENERAL COORDINATION DIV OF  
MITI'S RESOURCES AND ENERGY AGENCY, DISCUSSED WITH E/COUNS NOVEMBER  
13 PLANS BEING DEVELOPED WITHIN GOJ FOR PETROLEUM CONSUMPTION  
CONTROL. ACCORDING KURIHARA, MITI'S DETAILED CONTROL PLANS  
WILL BE PRESENTED BY MITI MIN NAKASONE ON NOV. 13 AT MEETING  
WITH CABINET SECRETARY NIKAI DO, EPA DIRECTOR GENERAL KISAKA  
AND FINANCE MINISTER AICHI. NAKASONE WILL MAKE BRIEF INTERIM  
REPORT ON PROPOSED MEASURES TO PRESS FOLLOWING THIS SESSION.  
AFTER FULL CABINET CONSIDERATION OF MEASURES WITHIN NEXT THREE  
DAYS, EITHER PM TANAKA OR CABINET SECRETARY NIKAI DO WILL MAKE  
FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF OIL CONSUMPTION CONTROL PLANS  
ON NOVEMBER 16.

2. KURIHARA NOTED THAT MITI'S PLANS WERE BASICALLY IN THREE  
STAGES: A) APPEALS TO PUBLIC TO CONSERVE ENERGY; B) ADMINISTRATIVE  
GUIDANCE TO INDUSTRY TO REDUCE CONSUMPTION; AND C) SUBMISSION  
OF EMERGENCY LEGISLATION TO DIET. PHASES (A) AND (B), HOWEVER,  
WOULD BE COMBINED AND BOTH WOULD GO INTO EFFECT IMMEDIATELY  
AFTER ANNOUNCEMENT ON NOV. 16.

3. MEASURES AIMED AT CONSUMER SECTOR WOULD NOT BE CONFINED TO  
NATIONAL ENERGY SAVING CAMPAIGN BUT WOULD BE COUPLED WITH  
ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE TO THOSE SECTORS SERVING PUBLIC, E.G.  
RETAILERS, TRANSPORTATION, ETC. KURIHARA ADDED THAT IT  
DIFFICULT TO FORECAST WHAT PERCENTAGE REDUCTION IN CONSUMPTION  
WOULD RESULT FROM THESE MEASURES. HE ACKNOWLEDGED, HOWEVER,  
THAT CONSUMPTION OF KEROSENE, USED FOR  
HOME HEATING, WOULD BE MORE DIFFICULT TO REDUCE DURING WINTER  
SEASON, THAN WOULD GASOLINE CONSUMPTION.

4. LARGE INDUSTRIAL CONSUMERS OF ENERGY, UNDER MITI PLANS,  
WOULD BE SUBJECT TO SPECIFIC ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDANCE ON LEVELS  
BY WHICH THEY WOULD REDUCE FUEL CONSUMPTION. ALTHOUGH SOME  
GUIDANCE WOULD BE GIVEN TO REFINERS IN ALLOCATING SUPPLIES,  
GENERAL THRUST OF PROGRAM WOULD BE DIRECTED TO ENERGY CONSUMERS  
RATHER THAN DISTRIBUTORS.  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 TOKYO 14818 131145Z

5. KURIHARA SAID THAT MITI NOW FORECAST THAT OIL SHORTAGES  
WOULD REACH 20 PCNT OF EXPECTED AVAILABLE LEVELS BY EARLY DECEMBER  
(SEE SEPTTEL). HOWEVER, GOJ DECISION TO REDUCE CONSUMPTION  
BY THIS EXTENT WOULD SEVERELY SHOCK JAPANESE ECONOMY. THERE-  
FORE, CONSUMPTION REDUCTIONS IN EARLY STAGES AT LEAST, WOULD BE  
ONE-HALF OF THE LEVEL OF SUPPLY CUTBACKS, OR 10 PCNT. INVENTORIES  
AND STOCKPILES WOULD BE DRAWN DOWN TO MAKE UP DIFFERENCE. MITI

HOWEVER BELIEVED THAT STOCKPILES COULD ONLY BE SAFELY DRAWN DOWN TO CERTAIN (UNSPECIFIED) MINIMUM LEVEL. THUS, IF PETROLEUM SHORTAGES CONTINUED, PERCENTAGE REDUCTION TO ECONOMY WOULD HAVE TO RISE GRADUALLY TO APPROACH FULL EXTENT OF SUPPLY SHORTAGE.

6. KURIHARA ALSO SAID THAT HE EXPECTED THAT DECISION WOULD BE MADE TO SUBMIT DRAFT OF EMERGENCY CONSUMPTION CONTROL LEGISLATION TO DIET AS SOON AS IT OPENED ON DECEMBER 1. CONTENT OF DRAFT LEGISLATION APPARENTLY NOT YET DECIDED. AMONG PENDING ISSUES ARE (A) WHETHER BILL SHOULD BE CONFINED TO PRESENT EMERGENCY ONLY OR APPLY TO ANY FUTURE SHORT SUPPLY SITUATION; AND (B) WHETHER OR NOT AUTHORITY TO REGULATE PRICES SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN BILL. RATIONING AUTHORITY, HOWEVER, WOULD DEFINITELY BE ONE OF FEATURES OF BILL.

7. KURIHARA NOTED IN CONCLUSION THAT JAPANESE PRESS WAS HAVING FIELD DAY REPORTING VARIOUS SPECIFIC CUTBACK LEVELS FOR INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES, BUT CAUTIONED THAT THESE REPORTS PURELY SPECULATIVE.  
SHOESMITH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM, SUPPLIES, PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 NOV 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973TOKYO14818  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** TOKYO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19731136/aaaabadi.tel  
**Line Count:** 136  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 NOV 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14-Nov-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <19-Dec-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JAPANESE PETROLEUM CONSUMPTION CONTROL PLANS SUMMARY: GOJ NOW IN FINAL STAGES OF CONSIDERATION OF PETROLEUM  
**TAGS:** ENRG, JA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005